

IN MEMORIAM

Arthur P. Arndt, Steel Bridge Expert, Dies at 91

Arthur P. Arndt, former vice president for AISC member/AISC certified erector American Bridge Company, passed away earlier this summer in Dublin, Ohio, at the age of 91.

Born and raised in Texas, Arndt served in the U.S. Navy and the Naval Reserves before graduating from the University of Texas with a degree in civil engineering. He worked for American Bridge—which at the time was a subsidiary of US Steel Corporation—for more than 40 years, starting out as a civil engineer and moving up to vice president until his retirement. He was the recipient of many awards for excellence in engineering and in 2001 he received AISC’s Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the structural steel industry. He also served as an auditor for Quality Auditing Company, Inc., the precursor to Quality Management Company, LLC, which currently operates under the auspices of AISC’s certification programs.

Mike Flowers, who recently retired as president and CEO of American Bridge, recalled, “I worked directly for Art briefly back in the 1980s and got to know him

fairly well. He was a no-nonsense kind of guy, an engineer’s engineer. I’ll never forget when he pulled me aside at the end of a particular AISC audit and told me how proud he was that we were building American Bridge back to its former glory and doing a very fine job of it. Compliments from Art were not easily earned, and it was pretty meaningful in giving perspective to what we were building here at American Bridge.”

Arndt was preceded in death by his wife, Aileen.



STEELDAY

Show Us Your School’s Steel Sculpture!

This fall marks 30 years since the installment of the original AISC Steel Sculpture on the University of Florida’s campus. Today, there are more than 170 of these teaching sculptures across the U.S. and around the world. In celebration of the sculpture’s 30th anniversary and to honor its creator, Duane Ellifritt, professor emeritus of civil engineering at Florida, AISC is holding a contest for students to show off their university’s steel sculpture.

Students have until Friday, September 16, to submit a creative photo (or photos) of their school’s AISC Steel Sculpture. All eligible entries will be posted to AISC’s Facebook page (www.facebook.com/AISCdotORG) during the week of September 26, and anyone with a Facebook account can vote for their favorite photo. The final day of online

voting will be on SteelDay, Friday, September 30. Students whose photos receive the most likes will win prizes.

To enter the contest, students are required to submit a photo of their school’s AISC Steel Sculpture to socialmedia@aisc.org and must include their full name and university name with each photo entry. They can enter as many photos as they wish but may win only one prize. Creativity and personality are important. Props and/or people are encouraged in the photos.

For full contest details, visit www.aisc.org/studentsteeldaycontest. For more information on the AISC Steel Sculpture, including a full school listing, photo gallery and a link to download the Steel Sculpture plans, visit www.aisc.org/steelsculpture. And for more on SteelDay, see “SteelDay is Coming!” on page 27.

People and Firms

- AISC member **Alro Steel** has opened an 80,000-sq.-ft service center facility in Tulsa, Okla. The building replaces a 9,000-sq.-ft facility that Alro operated in Tulsa since 1999. The larger footprint will allow Alro to process additional grades and sizes of steel.
- The **New York State Steel Fabricators Association** is hosting its 75th Anniversary Fall Meeting September 14-15 at the 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel in Clayton, N.Y. Visit www.nyssfafa.org for information.
- **Vulcraft/Verco Group**, a division of AISC member **Nucor Corporation**, is accepting entries for its fourth annual NuHeights Design Awards competition. The program recognizes excellence and quality in steel building design and construction. If you’ve recently completed a building project using Vulcraft Joists or Steel Decking, Verco Decking or Ecospan Composite Floor System products, you’re eligible to enter. Entries will be accepted until October 31. For more information, visit www.vulcraft.com/nuheights.
- **McLaren Engineering Group**, a full-service engineering firm with eight divisions, is opening its newest office in Allentown, Pa., to expand its roster of public and private sector clients in the Lehigh Valley. The new office will provide services in vertical structures and the steel industry and will help develop the company’s other divisions, including transportation and entertainment. (See “River View” in August’s “What’s Cool in Steel” feature, available at www.modernsteel.com, for a McLaren-designed project.)

TRADE NEWS

U.S. Steel Industry Associations Release China Subsidies Report

Five of the leading American steel trade associations have released a report documenting that rapid growth of China's steel industry has been fueled by government subsidies and other market-distorting policies. The report was released by the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), the Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA), the Committee on Pipe and Tube Imports (CPTI), the Specialty Steel Industry of North America (SSINA) and AISC.

The report analyzed each of the 25 largest steel companies in China and detailed the amount and types of government subsidies each company received in recent years. The analysis also found that these subsidies and policies have led to tremendous overcapacity and created a highly fragmented domestic steel sector in China made up of many inefficient and heavily polluting companies.

The report states: "The Chinese government has supported the country's steel industry primarily through cash grants, equity infusions, government-mandated mergers and acquisitions, preferential loans and directed credit, land use subsidies, subsidies for utilities, raw material price controls, tax policies and benefits, currency policies and lax enforcement of environmental regulation. The Chinese government maintains a majority share in the top-producing (by 2014 tonnage) Chinese steel

producers. Domestic steel producers are not competing with private enterprises but with sovereign governments that do not need to use free-market principles to operate."

According to the report, China produced over 822 million tons of steel in 2014, which accounted for half of the world's steel production. However, the Chinese steel industry is facing weakening demand for steel both globally and domestically. But despite these trends and increasingly challenging market conditions for China's steel producers, steel capacity is expected to continue expanding in the short term as new production under construction comes online.

In releasing the report, the associations said that the investigation serves as additional corroboration that China should not be granted market economy status by the World Trade Organization in December. The group also emphasized that the results of this study will be used to further advance the global dialogue among nations on the elimination of excess steel capacity throughout the world.

"WTO Members expected China—consistent with its commitments during accession negotiations—to transition to a full-market economy; however, the evidence and experience is that many significant aspects of the Chinese economy remain under significant government control or influence," the groups concluded.

ERECTION

Steel Erection Projects Win SEAA Awards

The Steel Erectors Association of America (SEAA) has announced the winners of its annual Project of the Year competition. Projects are recognized for their complexity, and companies are awarded for overcoming challenges while maintaining safe work standards. The award-winning projects, which all topped out last year, are: the I-225 Florida Pedestrian Bridge, Aurora, Colo., erected by AISC member LPR Construction; 625 West 57th St., Manhattan, N.Y.; the Liberty University Fine Arts School of

Music, Lynchburg, Va., erected by AISC member/AISC certified erector CSE, Inc.; and the University of Mississippi Basketball Arena, Oxford, Miss., erected by AISC member/AISC certified erector Bracken Construction Co. Project information and photos can be found at www.seaa.net.

SEAA is now accepting nominations from its members for projects topped out this year. Submissions must be received by February 3, 2017. For more about entering the competition, visit www.seaa.net.

Human Touch

Thanks for the excellent coverage of the National Student Steel Bridge Competition in the August issue ("Proven in Provo"). Your article effectively melds human interest and technical detail, with great photos to illustrate both.

—*Frank Hatfield, PE, PhD*
Professor Emeritus, Michigan State University Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering

EVENTS

Future Leaders Ideas Lab Prepares Next Generation of Fabricators

If you work for an AISC-member fabricator and have recently moved into or anticipate moving into a senior management position during the next few years, the Future Leaders Ideas Lab is the event for you! Attendees will learn valuable leadership tools specific to the fabrication industry and have the opportunity to network and exchange ideas with their peers. Now in its third consecutive year, the event will take place October 20–21 in Philadelphia.

"Leaders generally have very few peers within their own environment to interact with," said past attendee Rick Russel of Future Fabricating. "The opportunity to meet, network, share and validate means and methods of leadership is a priceless value that can be captured by participating in this AISC-sponsored event."

Sessions will cover a wide range of topics including legal issues (with a focus on contracts), negotiation skills and new developments in fabrication software. New this year is a special session for attendees to meet in small groups with experienced industry leaders to explore real-life case studies and gain insight into critical management issues and how to deal with them.

For more information and to register, go to www.aisc.org/ideaslab.